

Transportation IWG Conference Call Summary

Monday, June 23, 2008, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Attendance

Co-Leads:

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| Dennis McLerran | Puget Sound Clean Air Agency |
| Katy Taylor | Washington Department of Transportation |
| Lon Wyrick | Thurston Regional Planning Council |

Workgroup Members:

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| Genesee Adkins | Transportation Choices Coalition |
| Gordon Black | Bicycle Alliance of Washington |
| *Chris Carlson | Washington State Insurance Commission |
| Barbara Culp | Children's Hospital & Regional Medical Center |
| Bonnie Geers | Weyerhaeuser/Quadrant Homes |
| KC Golden | Climate Solutions |
| Lynne Griffith | Pierce Transit/Washington State Transit System |
| Wayne Grotheer | Port of Seattle |
| Jemae Hoffman | Seattle Department of Transportation |
| Bryan Imai | Washington State Auto Dealers Association |
| *Dan Kieffer | PACCAR/Kenworth Trucks (Alternate) |
| Bill Kidd | British Petroleum |
| Kim Lyons | Washington State University Energy Program |
| Bonnie Mager | Spokane County Commissioner |
| Michael McGinn | Sierra Club |
| Carol Moser | Washington State Transportation Commission |
| Dave Overstreet | American Automobile Association |
| *Gary Prince | King County |
| Ashley Probart | Association of Washington Cities |
| Larry Pursley | Freight/Trucking Industry |
| Bob Saunders | Washington Department of Ecology |
| *Keri Shepard | Tribal Transportation Planning Organization |
| Liz Warman | Boeing and Commute Trip Reduction Board |

**Alternate for Mike Kreidler, Washington State Insurance Commissioner*

**Alternate for Preston Feight, PACCAR/Kenworth Trucks*

**Alternate for Harold Taniguchi, King County*

**Alternate for Kirk Vinish, Tribal Transportation Planning Organization*

Absent:

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| Bill Clarke | Washington State Association of Realtors |
| Preston Feight | PACCAR/Kenworth Trucks (Alternate present) |
| Mike Kreidler | Washington State Insurance Commissioner (Alternate present) |
| Glenn Miles | Spokane Regional Transportation Council |
| Carla Pryne | Earth Ministry |
| Harold Taniguchi | King County (Alternate present) |
| Kirk Vinish | Tribal Transportation Planning Organization (Alternate present) |

Support:

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| Hedia Adelsman | Washington Department of Ecology |
| Morgan Ahouse | Sierra Club, Alternate for Michael McGinn (present) |
| Nancy Atwood | Puget Sound Energy |
| Jason Beloso | Washington State Department of Transportation |
| Dorinda Costa | Seattle Department of Transportation |
| Anne Criss | Washington State Department of Transportation |
| Michael Groesch | Senate Transportation Committee |
| Margaret Kitchell | Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility |
| Jay Larson | Snohomish County |
| Patrick McGrath | Cascade Bicycle Club |
| Jonathan Olds | Washington State Department of Transportation |
| Paul Parker | Washington State Transportation Commission |
| Joyce Phillips | Washington Dept. of Community Trade and Economic Development |
| Melanie Smith | Sound Transit |
| Leslie Stanton | Puget Sound Clean Air Agency |
| Rob Willis | Ross & Associates Environmental Consulting, Ltd. |

Background Documents

(Available online at http://www.ecv.wa.gov/climatechange/2008CAT_iwg_tran.htm)

- Agenda
- Study of Long Term Transportation Financing Options
- Transportation Resource Manual
- Revenue Options Worksheet
- Homework Assignment

Discussion Items and Key Issues

1. Briefing on Financial Tools/Options
 - 1.1. Jonathan Olds provided a review of the Study of Long Term Financing Options and the Transportation Resource Manual, as well as the TWG work last year on T-0 for new funding mechanisms.
 - 1.2. A member asked for clarification on the limits for the \$20 licensing fee legislation. It was clarified that the legislation enables cities or counties to impose through council action up to \$20 for a transportation licensing fee. Any amount larger than that would require voter approval.
 - 1.3. A member suggested that the total cost of recommendations T-1 through T-12 be rolled into a total amount in relation to a gas tax increment. Dennis cautioned against translating the recommendations into a gas tax, since some of the actions are short term and others long term. More detailed information is needed before a determination can be made about possible funding options.
 - 1.4. A member recommended that the group look at the National Transportation Policy and Revenues Committee report on strategic approaches to transportation for the nation. It was suggested that VMT technology be considered as a new way of taxing roadway and transportation systems.
2. Prioritization of CAT 1 Recommendations for Transportation IWG Consideration

- 2.1. Rob Willis provided a summary of the homework responses on prioritization of CAT 1 recommendations for IWG consideration. 25 responses were received out of 29 total workgroup members.
 - 2.1.1. Transit, Ridesharing, and Commuter Choice was identified as the highest priority area of focus for the Transportation IWG. T-1.1 (Operating Support) and T-1.2 (Capital Grants) were consistently identified as the most important areas of focus.
 - 2.1.2. Transportation Pricing was identified 16 times as a priority and 14 times as a top 3 priority. Road Pricing, Miles-based Insurance, and Parking-related management were consistently rated the highest. Several individuals mentioned a VMT-tax/Carbon-tax as an alternative to other taxes. The 18th Amendment – Gas Tax for Highway Purposes Only was also identified.
 - 2.1.3. Compact and Transit Oriented Development (TOD) was identified 18 times as a priority. While TOD was mentioned more times, transportation pricing was more consistently higher rated and was often times coupled with T-1.
 - 2.1.4. Many individuals cited the ‘gatekeeper’ decision being funding
- 2.2. Dennis clarified that the IWG will look at VMT reduction strategies first and other topics later as a separate exercise.
- 2.3. The group discussed the political landscape regarding prioritization. The details of the funding strategies and sources will affect the political landscape for the group’s proposals.
- 2.4. Lynne Griffith provided a summary of her response to the prioritization exercise developed in coordination with a subgroup that she convened, including representatives from Sound Transit, Everett Transit, Ben Franklin, WFA and others.
- 2.5. A member asked the IWG group to consider capital transportation costs. Measurement of VMT reductions was suggested as a topic for discussion. Land use and planning were also suggested as important components for the group to consider.
- 2.6. The group discussed the value of having a cost comparison of transportation options, cost of petroleum imports, and cost of subsidies, including driving and non-motorized transportation.
- 2.7. Genessee Adkins provided a brief overview of the T-4 recommendation for promoting compact development and the development of the growth management and climate change process.
- 2.8. Members asked about coordination with the GMA and SEPA IWG processes. Any questions or comments for those groups, identifying any specific Transportation IWG work that is dependent on their work, should be emailed to Rob Willis before the next meeting.

Next Steps and Agreements:

1. The next meeting will focus on discussion of CAT 1 recommendations T1.1 and T1.2, as a starting point to identifying costs, as well as issues regarding vanpool programs. The group will also discuss calculation methodologies, transit-oriented development and compact development issues. WSDOT will provide cost comparison information for discussion at the meeting, as well as an updated baseline VMT per capita calculation.
2. Members will receive an email describing the homework assignment for completion before the next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next Transportation IWG meeting will be an in-person meeting on July 14th from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Sea-Tac International Airport, Amsterdam Room.